

1 BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION Arizona Corporation Commission 2 **COMMISSIONERS** DOCKETED 3 DOUG LITTLE - Chairman APR 22 2016 **BOB STUMP BOB BURNS** DOCKETED BY TOM FORESE ANDY TOBIN 6 IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF DOCKET NO. WS-01678A-07-0116 BACA FLOAT WATER COMPANY FOR AN EXTENSION OF ITS EXISTING CERTIFICATE OF DECISION NO. 75516 CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR WATER SERVICE. ORDER EXTENDING TIME DEADLINE CONTAINED IN DECISION NOS. 69949, 71437, 72677 10 AND 74373 11 Open Meeting April 12 and 13, 2016 12 Pĥoenix, Arizona 13 BY THE COMMISSION: 14 15 Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the Arizona 16 Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that: 17 FINDINGS OF FACT 18 1. On October 30, 2007, the Commission issued Decision No. 69949 which granted Baca 19 Float Water Company ("Baca Float" or "Company") an extension of its Certificate of Convenience and 20 Necessity ("CC&N") to provide water service to a contemplated residential community on the Tres 21 Alamos Ranch in the area of Tubac, Arizona. 22 Decision No. 69949 required Baca Float to file an Approval To Construct ("ATC") from 2. 23 the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") for the water system facilities needed to 24 service the first phase of the Tres Alamos development project within two years of the effective date 25 of the Decision. 26 In early 2007 it was anticipated that residential construction of Tres Alamos Ranch 3. 27 would begin in November 2008. The 2008 financial crisis and ensuing economic recession substantially 28

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impacted residential developments in Arizona, including the Tubac area. As a consequence, in the subsequent years, Baca Float sought and was granted three extensions of the requirement to file the ATC.1 The most recent Decision extended the deadline to file the ATC until September 30, 2015.2

- 4. On August 24, 2015, Baca Float filed another request for extension of time seeking that the deadline to file the ATC be extended from September 30, 2015, to September 30, 2017.
- 5. In its August 24, 2015 filing, Baca Float states that when Decision No. 74373 was issued the Tres Alamos Ranch was in escrow and it was anticipated that construction would be completed by April 2015, and the ATC filed shortly thereafter. However, Baca Float states that the sale of the ranch did not proceed to closing. Baca Float provided a letter from Gary T. Smith of Jakoke Real Estate Services and Ranch Manager which opines that the improvements and investments in the property made to date will result in the inevitable development of the property. In addition, Silverleaf Acquisition Holdings, LLC owns the Tres Alamos Ranch and requests that Baca Float continue to be the certified water service provider.
- 6. On March 23, 2016, the Commission's Utilities Division ("Staff") filed a Memorandum stating that based on the evidence provided by the Company, Staff does not object to the request for an extension of time in this matter. Staff recommends a 10-year extension, or until September 30, 2025, for Baca Float to file the required ATC.
- 7. The request for an extension of time to file the ATC for the water system facilities is reasonable under the circumstances, including in particular that the property owner of the extension area continues to desire that Baca Float serve the extension area. Current ratepayers should not be adversely affected by an additional extension of time. Consequently, we adopt Staff's recommendation and find good cause to extend the deadline originally established in Decision No. 69949 until September 30, 2025.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Baca Float is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. §§ 40-281 and 40-282.

See Decision Nos. 71437, 72677, and 74373.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Decision No. 74373 (February 26, 2014).

The Commission has jurisdiction over Baca Float and the subject matter of the request. 1 2. The requested extension of time is reasonable and should be approved. 2 3. 3 **ORDER** IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the deadline for Baca Float Water Company to file an 4 Approval to Construct for the facilities needed to serve the first phase of development of the extension 5 area as set forth in Decision No. 69949, shall be extended until September 30, 2025. 7 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that all other provisions of Decision No. 69949 shall remain in 8 effect. 9 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately. BY ORDER OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION. 10 11 **EXCUSED** COMM. STUMP 12 COMMISSIONER 13 14 COMMISSIONER 15 16 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, JODI JERICH, Executive Director 17 of the Arizona Corporation Commission, have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the Commission to be affixed 18 at the Capitol, in the City of Phoenix, this 2016. 19 20 21 JODI JERICH EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR 22 23 DISSENT 24 25 DISSENT \_\_\_\_\_ JR:rt 26 27 28

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